

## **Marshfield Planning Commission Minutes**

**January 17, 2019**

**Present:** Jonathan Williams (chair), Melissa Seifert, Aaron Ingham, Bob Light

Conservation commission members: Steve Fiske, Allan Banberry, Annie Reed, Bob Popp

Energy Committee/Climate Action: Rich Phillips and Anne Miller

**Call to Order:** 6:30pm at the Old Schoolhouse Common

**Public Comment:** None

**Review of Agenda:** Added Conservation commission discussion and a request by Rich Phillips

**Rich Phillips:** Rich explained that there is an opportunity for the Town of Marshfield, in conjunction with the Town of Plainfield, to apply for a program that would provide guidance and support to the selected towns to help with climate change. Only two towns in Vermont will receive this assistance. It is not a grant; rather it is support and guidance to the two selected towns to help with developing protocols and guidelines to help with climate control and other conservation issues. Rich would like the support of the Planning Commission. Jonathan made a motion to sign the letter of support on behalf of the Planning Commission and Aaron seconded, motion passed.

**Conservation Commission:** There was discussion of the proposed zoning map changes. Bob Light expressed that he has had many people comment on the zoning restrictions that only allow building back 600 feet and he thinks a setback of 750 feet might be beneficial for growth in the Town of Marshfield. The current setback is 600 feet and the proposed is 750 feet. This would mean the agriculture/rural district would lose roughly 660 acres and the residential/forestry/conservation district would gain 600+ acres. There was discussion of how this potential change would affect the new forested block area, river and wildlife corridors, and riparian buffer zones. There was also discussion of promoting cluster housing to conserve energy and concentrate service areas to potentially have less environmental impact. There was discussion of how much of the affected land is already privately conserved. It was agreed that more information is needed to see what the affects would be with a change in the setback.

**Review, discuss Approve Minutes:** 12/20/2018, a motion was made to approve as written, was seconded and passed

**Updates:**

- A. CVRPC:** The meeting was shortened due to weather; they went over how the work is being done to make people aware of how much Vermont has to offer such as the technical jobs available at General Dynamics and IBM.
- B. TAC Mtg:** It is scheduled for January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 to discuss the request for a grant to study traffic calming infrastructure. Jonathan and Arron will try to attend.
- C. Zoning:** none
- D. Other:** The CVRPC would like to meet to go over River corridor maps and the protection rules and regulations.

**Business Items:**

- A. Noise Ordinance:** The planning commission is still waiting for an invitation to discuss with the select board.
- B. Library tabling/feedback for proposed setback:** scheduled for February 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the library and there will be coffee and refreshments.
- C. Planning commission vacancies:** no one has expressed interest yet
- D. Other:** none

**Correspondence:** none

Meeting adjourned 8:05pm

Next meeting 2/7/19

Respectfully submitted by Robin Schunk, clerk